

Two very common Egyptian residents, viz. the Parasitic Kite, *Milvus aegyptius*, and the Hooded Crow, *Corvus cornix*, were, so far as I could learn, never seen in the Wadi.

On Feb. 13th a Crow, which I took to be *Corvus umbrinus*, was observed near the edge of the desert.

The Hoopoe, *Upupa epops*, was occasionally seen in the Wadi.

Owls were very uncommon, two only having been observed during my stay: one was a small bird, which, in the distance, appeared to be of a more or less uniform greyish colour, and was seen, late one morning, sitting on a mound close to the edge of the desert. From its general appearance, I am inclined to think that it was *Scops giu*. The other Owl, a large dark-coloured bird, probably *Asio accipitrinus*, was observed flying around the spot where I was awaiting the evening flight of Ducks.

A large Vulture, possibly *Gyps fulvus*, was noticed on one occasion circling round at a great height.

A few Egyptian Vultures, *Neophron percnopterus*, are said to occasionally visit the Wadi.

On Feb. 18th a flock of about fifty Gulls was seen standing in one of the lakes, but too far off to be identified with certainty.

XXIX.—*On further Collections of Birds from the Efulen District of Camaroon, West Africa.* By R. BOWDLER SHARPE, LL.D. *With Notes by the Collector, G. L. BATES.* —Part III.*

(Plate IX.)

THE present paper continues the account of the collection sent home by Mr. Bates in 1904; while on his return to Europe he brought with him a further interesting series of birds, which I also catalogue, as they are mostly from the River Ja.

* See Part I. 'Ibis,' 1904, p. 88; Part II. 'Ibis,' 1904, p. 591; and Mr. Bates's Field-notes above, p. 89.

Mr. Bates has added some field-notes on the species observed by him, and sends the following introduction:—

“I have already spoken of the fact that the birds of this district may be pretty clearly divided into two classes—those inhabiting the bushes and small trees of old cleared ground which is returning to forest, and those of the forest itself. The birds of the clearings are seldom seen in the forest, and the forest-birds are seldom seen in the clearings, though some species are found in both.

“The birds of the clearings feed singly or in pairs, or, in the case of seed-eaters, in flocks; and at times gather together in numbers in the tops of fruit-trees. But most of the birds of the forest have a peculiar way of feeding that is worth describing. They go about in roving companies, consisting of individuals of many species mingled together. These companies keep together only loosely, and may be scattered through the tops of many adjoining trees, often only one or two birds in a tree. Each flies or hops from branch to branch on its own account, and there is no concerted movement; yet all move in the same direction and keep together. They are mainly engaged in looking for insects, but also keep up a continual noise with their various cries and songs. The noisiest birds seem to act as guides to the rest, just as men walking scattered through a forest halloo to each other, or as the leader of a troop of monkeys barks to keep his followers together. I propose here to call such a company of birds by the native name of *éjak*.

“Nearly all the forest-species of birds feed in this way, more or less. Each *éjak* contains individuals of from three or four to eight or ten species. Nearly always two or three of the Black Drongo (*Dicrurus atripennis*) are the most conspicuous birds of the *éjak*. Other species generally found in these companies are *Criniger calurus*, *Bleda tricolor*, *Anthothreptes fraseri*, some species of *Malimbus*, and some Woodpeckers. Many other forest-species are seen in them. Nearly every large *éjak* has also one or more squirrels in it.

“No reason connected with the finding and securing of the food can be given to explain this curious habit. It looks

as if the little creatures, fond of good cheer and society, are driven by the gloom and loneliness of the forest to seek each other's company. The bird-population of the forest is not nearly so dense as that of the old cleared land; the number both of species and of individuals found in the forest is less. If the little birds were evenly scattered through the forest they would be lonely. It is noticeable that certain strictly forest-birds, such as the different species of *Turdinus*, *Alethe*, *Stiphronis*, and some of *Bleda*, which live hidden in the undergrowth and feed among the dead leaves, are not often seen in the *éjak*. They seem to be at home in the forest, and to have no need of companions and noise to cheer their spirits. On the other hand, when a bird of which the more natural home is in the light of clearings goes into the forest, it joins itself to an *éjak*. Thus *Oriolus latior*, *Barbatula duchailloi*, and *Ixonotus guttatus* are birds of the open land; yet I have seen all of them in the depths of the forest just once, and that in an *éjak*.

“One of these companies may easily be followed for a long time, as it moves slowly. When the birds are frightened they scatter and become silent for a few moments; then they may be heard assembling again further on. Once I observed the same *éjak* for three days. It passed my camp going east the first day; I saw it and watched it half a mile or more to the east the second day; the third day it passed the camp again going westward. The birds in an *éjak* sleep where night overtakes them.”

I now proceed with the systematic list of the species and remarks thereupon.

1. STREPTOPELIA ERYTHROPHRYS Swains.

Streptopelia semitorquata (nec Rüpp.); Sharpe, Ibis, 1904, p. 596.

Nos. 470, 472. River Ja, May 11, 12, 1904.

2. CALOPELIA BREHMERI.

Calopelia brehmeri (Hartl.); Sharpe, Ibis, 1904, pp. 95, 596.

Nos. 642, 652. ♂. River Ja, June 7, 9, 1904.

3. TYMPANISTRIA TYMPANISTRIA.

Tympanistria tympanistria (Temm.); Sharpe, Ibis, 1904, p. 94.

No. 490. ♂. River Ja, May 14, 1904.

No. 618. ♀. „ June 3, 1904.

4. CRECOPSIS EGREGIA.

Crecopsis egregia (Peters); Sharpe, Hand-l. B. i. p. 100 (1899).

Crex egregia Peters; Reichenow, Vög. Afrikas, i. p. 278 (1900).

No. 601. ♀ ad. River Ja, May 30, 1904. Eggs in the ovary in course of formation.

5. GYMNOPENYS TYPICUS.

Polyboroides typicus Smith; Reichenow, Vög. Afrikas, i. p. 531 (1901); Sharpe, Ibis, 1904, pp. 98, 596.

No. 473. ♀. River Ja, May 12, 1904. Eggs in the ovary beginning to form.

6. GYPOHIERAX ANGOLENSIS.

Gypohierax angolensis (Gm.); Sharpe, Ibis, 1904, p. 601.

No. 498. ♂ ad. River Ja, May, 16, 1904.

7. TIGRORNIS LEUCOLOPHA.

Tigrornis leucolopha Jard.; Sharpe, Ibis, 1904, p. 98.

No. 544. ♀. River Ja, May 21, 1904.

8. ACCIPITER MELANOLEUCUS.

Astur melanoleucus Reichenow, Vög. Afrikas, i. p. 551 (1901).

Accipiter melanoleucus Smith; Sharpe, Ibis, 1904, p. 102.

No. 474. ♀ ad. River Ja, May 12, 1904.

9. ASTUR CASTANILIUS.

Astur tachiro castanilius Bp.; Reichenow, Vög. Afrikas, i. p. 554 (1901).

Astur castanilius Sharpe, Ibis, 1904, p. 597.

No. 724. Juv. Efulen, May 1904.

10. UROTIRIORCHIS MACRURUS.

Urotiriorchis macrurus (Hartl.); Reichenow, Vög. Afrikas, i. p. 568 (1901); Sharpe, Ibis, 1904, p. 597.

No. 723. Ad. Efulen, May 1904.

11. ASTURINULA MONOGRAMMICA.

Kaupifalco monogrammicus (Temm.); Reichenow, Vög. Afrikas, i. p. 547 (1901).

No. 682. ♀. River Ja, June 14, 1904. Eggs in ovary in course of formation.

12. DRYOTRIORCHIS BATESI.

Dryotriorchis batesi Sharpe, Ibis, 1904, p. 600.

No. 444. ♀ ad. Efulen, April 14, 1904. Ovaries small.

13. PERNIS APIVORUS.

Pernis apivorus (L.); Reichenow, Vög. Afrikas, i. p. 613 (1901); Sharpe, Ibis, 1904, p. 603.

No. 630. ♂ imm. River Ja, June 1904. Testes small.

This is a late date for a migratory bird from the north to be found in Africa.

14. HALCYON BADIUS.

Halcyon badius Verr.; Sharpe, Ibis, 1904, p. 608.

No. 671. ♀. River Ja, June 13, 1904. Eggs in ovary in course of formation.

15. MELITTOPHAGUS AUSTRALIS.

Melittophagus australis (Reichenow); Sharpe, Ibis, 1904, p. 611.

No. 464. ♀ ad. River Ja, May 9, 1904.

16. HALALODERMA NARINA.

Hapaloderma narina (Steph.); Sharpe, Ibis, 1904, p. 613.

No. 452. ♂ ad. Efulen, April 18, 1904.

17. METALLOCOCCYX SMARAGDINEUS.

Metallococcyx smaragdineus (Sw.); Sharpe, Ibis, 1904, p. 614.

No. 454. ♂. Efulen, April 20, 1904. "Ta-ôjóé."

18. CHRYSOCOCCYX KLAASI.

Chrysococcyx klaasi (Steph.); Sharpe, Ibis, 1904, p. 614.

No. 663. ♂ ad. River Ja, June 11, 1904.

No. 677. ♂ ad. ,, June 13, 1904.

19. CHRYSOCOCCYX CUPREUS.

Chrysococcyx cupreus (Bodd.); Sharpe, Ibis, 1904, p. 614.

Nos. 674, 676. ♂ ♀. River Ja, June 13, 1904.

20. *CENTROPUS ANSELLI*.

Centropus anselli, Sharpe, P. Z. S. 1874, p. 204, pl. xxxiii. fig. 1; Shelley, Cat. B. xix. p. 359 (1891); Reichenow, Vög. Afrikas, ii. p. 70 (1902).

No. 599. ♂ ad. River Ja, May 30, 1904. Testes rather large.

Compared with the type from the Ogowé River (wing 7·6 in.) this specimen seems to be rather small (wing 6·6). In other dimensions also it seems to be a little less, having the culmen 1·4 (type 1·6), tail 9·3 (type 11·7), tarsus 1·7 (type 2·0). The total length of the type-specimen is 22·5 inches, while that of the Ja River bird is 17·6.

This species is apparently now recorded from Camaroon for the first time.

21. *LYBIUS BIDENTATUS*.

Lybius bidentatus (Shaw); Sharpe, Ibis, 1904, p. 616.

No. 707. ♀ juv. River Ja, June 20, 1904. Ovaries small.

No. 710. ♀ ad. River Ja, June 21, 1904. Eggs in the ovary in process of formation.

[This bird was only seen in the small trees of some ground which was returning to forest, near the village, and there generally in the fruit-trees: the stomach invariably contained fruit. The iris is nearly white, and the naked skin round the eye yellowish white.]

22. *BARBATULA SUBSULFUREA*.

Barbatula subsulfurea (Fraser); Sharpe, Ibis, 1904, p. 617.

No. 712. ♀ ad. River Ja, June 22, 1904. Eggs forming in the ovary.

No. 715. ♂ ad. River Ja, June 23, 1904. Testes rather small.

23. *BARBATULA FLAVISQUAMATA*.

Barbatula flavisquamata (Verr.); Sharpe, Ibis, 1904, p. 618.

No. 717. ♀. River Ja, June 23, 1904. Eggs forming in the ovary.

24. DENDROPICUS GABONENSIS.

Dendropicus gabonensis (Verr.) ; Sharpe, Ibis, 1904, p. 619.
No. 690. ♀ ad. River Ja, June 15, 1904. Eggs forming in the ovary.

25. VERREAUXIA AFRICANA.

Verreauxia africana (Verr.) ; Sharpe, Ibis, 1904, p. 620.
Nos. 451, 455. ♂ ♀. Efulen, April 18-20, 1904.
" Ôbôô-mink."

No. 477. ♂ juv. River Ja, May 13, 1904.

The adult male and female appear to be perfectly alike in plumage, but the young bird has the lower parts washed with rusty brown, in this respect agreeing with the specimen from Gaboon in the British Museum. This was purchased from the Maison Verreaux, and is doubtless the type of *Sasia africana* J. & E. Verr.

26. PITTA REICHENOWI.

Pitta reichenowi Madarász : Sharpe, Ibis, 1904, p. 621.
No. 641. ♀. River Ja, June 7, 1904. Eggs forming in the ovary.

27. PSALIDOPROCNE PETITI.

Psalidoprocne petiti Sharpe & Bouvier ; Sharpe, Ibis, 1904, p. 621.

Nos. 465, 466. ♂. River Ja, May 10, 1904. " Nguleyebe."

No. 586. ♂. River Ja, May 27, 1904. Testes large.

No. 615. ♂. „ June 2, 1904. Testes large.

28. HIRUNDO GORDONI.

Hirundo gordonii Jard. ; Sharpe & Wyatt, Monogr. Hirund. ii. p. 397 (1885) ; Reichenow, Vög. Afrikas, ii. p. 418 (1903).

No. 462. ♂. River Ja, May 6, 1904. " Ngomeko."

Nos. 700-701. ♂ ad. et juv. River Ja, June 17, 1904.

No. 702. ♀ ad. River Ja, June 17, 1904. Eggs forming in the ovary.

This species does not appear to have been recorded from Camaroon before.

[This large Swallow is more often seen at rest than either

species of *Psalidoprocne*, which seem to have learned the secret of perpetual motion. On my last trip to the Ja I several times saw examples of *Hirundo gordonii* on the clayey paths getting mud on their bills. No. 462 was shot while doing this, and a lump of mud was found on its bill. Nos. 700-702 were caught from a colony which was nesting in a hollow tree near the Ja. I have never obtained these Swallows about Efulen, where they must be less common than further inland. But the old nest in which the specimen of *Cypselus batesi* was caught, near Efulen ('Ibis,' Jan. 1905, p. 91), must have been that of this or a similar Swallow.]

29. PEDILORHYNCHUS CAMARUNENSIS.

Pedilorchynchus camarunensis Reichenow; Sharpe, *Ibis*, 1904, p. 624.

No. 53. ♀ ad. River Ja, Feb. 1903. "Kula."

No. 302. ♂ ad. „ Dec. 26, 1903.

No. 324. ♂ ad. „ Dec. 31, 1903.

Nos. 621, 622. ♂ ad. River Ja, June 4, 1904.

No. 672. ♀ ad. River Ja, June 13, 1904.

30. CHLOROPETA BATESI, sp. n.

Similis *C. kenya* Sharpe, pileo dorsoque concoloribus, illo vix fuscescente, sed a speciebus omnibus generis *Chloropeta* notieo sordide olivascenti-brunneo distinguenda. Long. tot. 5.1 poll., culm. 0.65, alæ 2.3, caudæ 2.1, tarsi 0.85.

No. 589. ♀ ad. River Ja, May 27, 1904. Eggs forming in the ovary.

No. 695. ♂ ad. River Ja, June 16, 1904.

This species might have been expected to be *C. major* of Hartert (*Bull. B. O. C.* xiv. p. 73, 1904), from Angola, but it is a smaller bird than *C. natalensis*, not larger. Like the Angolan species, it has a narrow line of yellow running from the lores above the eye. The Camaroon birds are much darker than any of the other species, with the crown not perceptibly differing from the back in colour, but being of a dark olive-brown tint, inclining to dull olive-yellow.

31. DIAPHOROPHYIA CASTANEA.

Diaphorophyia castanea (Fraser); Sharpe, *Ibis*, 1904, p. 625.

No. 713. ♂ ad. River Ja, June 22, 1904.

32. DIAPHOROPHYIA CHLOROPHRYS Alexander.

No. 691. ♀ ad. River Ja, June 15, 1904. Eggs forming in the ovary.

I cannot see any material difference between this specimen and others obtained in Fernando Po by Capt. Boyd Alexander and Mr. Scimund.

33. PLATYSTIRA CYANEA.

Platystira cyanea (P. L. S. Müll.); Sharpe, Ibis, 1904, p. 626.

No. 604. ♂. River Ja, May 31, 1904. Testes large.

34. SMITHORNIS ZENKERI.

Smithornis zenkeri Reichenow; Sharpe, Ibis, 1904, p. 627.

No. 705. ♂ ad. River Ja, June 18, 1904. Feet rather large.

The male now received is darker than the female sent by Mr. Bates from Efulen (*cf.* Sharpe, *l. c.*). The chestnut on the chest seems to be quite as dark as in *S. sharpei* from Fernando Po, and the only difference that I can see between the two species is that *S. sharpei* shews an olive tint on the back, whereas *S. zenkeri* is a little more ruddy. The two forms are undoubtedly very closely allied.

35. SMITHORNIS CAMARUNENSIS, sp. n.

Smithornis rufilateralis (*nec* Gray); Sharpe, Ibis, 1904, p. 627.

No. 456. ♂ ad. Efulen, April 20, 1904. "Nome-kup-mefan."

No. 521. ♀ ad. River Ja, May 17, 1904.

In my former paper, I stated that I could not distinguish between male birds from Camaroon and similar examples from the Gold Coast. I still find it impossible to find characters for separating the males from these two localities, but the females are strikingly different, and on the female I found the new species as follows:—

♀. Similis *S. rufilaterali* ♀, sed tectricibus alarum rufescenti-fulvo, minime albo terminatis; regione parotica et colli lateribus pallide rufescentibus, minime aurantiaco-

castaneis, late nigro striatis; pileo saturate schistaceo, late nigro striato; notæo rufescente umbrino, plumis late nigro striolatis. Long. tot. circa 5·6 poll., culm. 0·65, alæ 2·7, caudæ 1·85, tarsi 0·65.

The Camaroon bird is everywhere more distinctly streaked with black than the typical Gold-Coast form. On the under surface the black streaks are very broad and extend to the under tail-coverts. The conspicuous orange patch on the sides of the neck in *S. rufilateralis* is absent in *S. camarunensis*, these parts being merely rufescent, with broad longitudinal centres of black. The head is slaty-black, with black centres to the feathers.

36. ARTOMYIAS FULIGINOSA.

Artomyias fuliginosa Verr.; Sharpe, Ibis, 1904, p. 628.

No. 402. ♀ juv. Efulen, March 26, 1904.

No. 708. ♂ ad. River Ja, June 21, 1904.

This specimen was erroneously referred to *Alseonax epulata* in my former paper ('Ibis,' 1904, p. 622), where I described it as "spotted with sandy buff after the manner of Flycatchers." Mr. Bates, however, assures me that it is undoubtedly the young of *Artomyias*, and it is therefore of great interest, as proving that this genus is truly Muscicapine in its first plumage.

37. TCHITREA VIRIDIS.

Tchitreia viridis (P. L. S. Müll.); Sharpe, Ibis, 1904, p. 630.

No. 457. Ad. River Ja, March 1904. "Abelebe."

No. 406. ♀ ad. „ May 14, 1904.

No. 555. ♂ pull. „ May 22, 1904.

The nestling is a little rufous bird, with a sooty-black head and under surface, lighter and somewhat greyer on the abdomen.

38. ELMINIA LONGICAUDA.

Elminia longicauda (Swains.); Sharpe, Ibis, 1904, p. 631.

No. 644. ♀ ad. River Ja, June 8, 1904. Ovary small.

Nos. 685, 686. ♂ ad., ♀ pull. River Ja, June 15, 1904.

The nestling is very interesting. It is nearly like the adults, but of a more greyish blue, mottled with sandy-buff

edges to the feathers. The under surface is greyish, with a white abdomen and under tail-coverts, but with no blue on the throat and chest.

39. BLEDA SIMPLEX.

Bleda simplex (Temm.) ; Sharpe, Ibis, 1904, p. 632.

Phyllastrephus simplex Reichenow, Vög. Afrikas, iii. p. 393 (1904).

No. 495. ♀ ad. River Ja, May 14, 1904.

No. 539. ♂ ad. „ May 20, 1904.

40. BLEDA FLAVIGULA.

Bleda flavigula (Cab.), Sharpe, Hand-l. B. iii. p. 320 (1901).

Phyllastrephus flavigula Reichenow, Vög. Afrikas, iii. p. 395 (1904).

No. 620. ♂ ad. River Ja, June 3, 1904.

Nos. 655, 656. ♂ ♀ ad. River Ja, June 9, 1904.

41. BLEDA SYNDACTYLA.

Bleda syndactyla (Sw.) ; Sharpe, Ibis, 1904, p. 633 ; Reichenow, Vög. Afrikas, iii. p. 386 (1904).

No. 633. ♂ ad. River Ja, June 6, 1904.

42. BLEDA BATESI.

Bleda batesi Sharpe ; id. Ibis, 1904, p. 634.

No. 714. ♂ ad. River Ja, June 23, 1904. Testes rather small.

Remains of dusky tips are seen on the outer tail-feathers, one of which is also dusky along the inner webs.

43. BLEDA NOTATA.

Bleda notata (Cass.) ; Sharpe, Ibis, 1904, p. 635 ; Reichenow, Vög. Afrikas, iii. p. 385.

No. 552. ♀. River Ja, May 21, 1904.

No. 566. ♂. „ May 24, 1904.

Nos. 613, 646. ♀ ♂. River Ja, June 2, 8, 1904.

44. BLEDA LEUCOPLEURA.

Bleda leucopleura (Cass.) ; Sharpe, Ibis, 1904, p. 635.

Phyllatrophus leucopleurus Reichenow, Vög. Afrikas, iii. p. 398 (1904).

No. 535. ♂ ad. River Ja, May 20, 1904. Testes rather large.

Nos. 583, 584. ♀ ♂. River Ja, May 26, 1904.

Nos. 661, 662. ♂ ad., ♀ imm. River Ja, June 10, 1904.

45. *IXONOTUS GUTTATUS*.

Ixonotus guttatus J. & E. Verr.; Sharpe, *Ibis*, 1904, p. 638; Reichenow, *Vög. Afrikas*, iii. p. 416.

No. 697. ♀ ad. River Ja, June 17, 1904. Eggs forming in the ovary.

46. *PYCNONOTUS GABONENSIS*.

Pycnonotus gabonensis Sharpe; *id. Ibis*, 1904, p. 638.

No. 722. ♀ ad. River Ja, June 24, 1904. Ovary small.

47. *PYCNONOTUS VIRESCENTIOR*.

Pycnonotus virescentior Sharpe, *Ibis*, 1904, p. 638.

No. 499. ♂ ad. River Ja, May 16, 1904.

Nos. 543, 546. ♂ ♀ ad. River Ja, May 21, 1904.

48. *EURILLAS EFULENENSIS*.

Eurillas efulenensis Sharpe, *Ibis*, 1904, p. 635.

No. 489. ♀ juv. River Ja, May 13, 1904.

49. *EURILLAS VIRENS*.

Eurillas virens (Cab.); Sharpe, *Ibis*, 1904, p. 635.

No. 481. ♂ ad. River Ja, May 13, 1904.

No. 534. ♀ ad. „ May 20, 1904.

No. 719. ♂ ad. „ June 23, 1904.

50. *EURILLAS GRACILIS*.

Eurillas gracilis (Cab.); Sharpe, *Ibis*, 1904, p. 635.

No. 467. ♀. River Ja, May 10, 1904. "Eya Ôtok."

51. *GEOCICHLA CAMARONENSIS*, sp. n.

G. supra rufescens, dorso imo et uropygio castaneis, notæo reliquo haud concoloribus, pileo brunnescentiore; loris et facie laterali cum gastræo toto aurantiaco-castaneis; macula auriculari nigra; subcaudalibus albicantibus, medialiter brunnescentibus; tectricibus alarum majoribus macula apicali alba magna ornatis. Long. tot. 7.0 poll., culm. 0.75, alæ 3.8, caudæ 2.35, tarsi 1.05.

No. 225. ♂ ad. Efulen, Nov. 5, 1903.

This Ground-Thrush is of the same group as *G. princei*

and *G. compsonota*, but differs from them both, at a glance, by its orange-chestnut throat and under surface.

52. *MERULA SATURATA*.

Merula saturata (Cab.); Sharpe, Hand-l. B. iv. p. 128 (1903).

a. ♂ ad. Efulen, May 29, 1902.

b. ♀ ad. „ Nov. 31, 1902.

No. 69. ♀ ad. River Ja, Feb. 1903.

No. 446. ♂ ad. Efulen, April 13, 1904.

The specimen from the River Ja is more like the typical *M. saturata* than birds from Efulen, which are slightly paler and shew a likeness to *M. pelios*.

[This Thrush is never found in the forest. It seeks its food on the ground in the plantations, and in bushes and trees as well. It generally keeps out of sight and moves cautiously, its yellow bill being often the only part that can be seen. It is almost the only good songster in the country. Its song is rich and varied and freely uttered, especially early and late in the day. It seems to mimic other birds, though it has many notes of its own.]

53. *CALLENE CYORNITHOPSIS*.

Callene cyornithopsis Sharpe; id. Hand-l. B. iv. p. 159 (1903).

No. 231. ♂ ad. Efulen, March 27, 1902.

a. ♀ ad. Efulen, Jan. 1, 1903. "Akalat."

No. 39. ♀ juv. River Ja, Feb. 1903.

Nos. 52, 57. ♂ ♀ ad. River Ja, Feb. 1903.

No. 231. ♂ ad. Efulen, Nov. 8, 1903.

No. 315. ♂ ad. River Ja, Dec. 28, 1903.

No. 320. ♂ ad. „ Dec. 30, 1903.

No. 325. ♀ ad. „ Dec. 31, 1903.

No. 488. ♀ ad. „ May 13, 1904.

No. 669. ♀ ad. „ June 12, 1904.

The sexes seem to be alike in colour and size, the wing being about 2·8 inches in length in both males and females. One male bird, however, shot on the 27th of March has a wing of 3·0 inches. An immature bird from the River Ja is

paler rufous on the throat, and has orange-rufous spots on the wing-coverts.

54. *COSSYPHA CYANOCAMPTER*.

Cossypha cyanocampter (Bp.): Sharpe, Hand-l. B. iv. p. 163 (1903).

a. ♀ ad. Efulen, June 3, 1902.

No. 47. ♂ ad. River Ja, Feb. 1903.

No. 266. ♂ ad. „ Dec. 16, 1903.

No. 306. ♂ ad. „ Dec. 26, 1903.

No. 327. ♂ ad. „ Jan. 1, 1904.

No. 500. ♀ ad. „ May 16, 1904.

No. 536. ♂ ad. „ May 20, 1904.

No. 545. ♂ ad. } River Ja, May 21, 1904.

Nos. 574, 548. ♂ ♀ ad. }

Nos. 560. ♂ : 576, 598, 607. ♀ ad. River Ja, May 23-31, 1904.

Nos. 650, 667. ♂ ♀ ad. River Ja, June 8, 11, 1904.

This seems to be nearest to the true *C. cyanocampter* from the Gold Coast; it is not the dark Gaboon form, *C. periculosa*. Prof. Reichenow also has identified the Camaroon bird with *C. cyanocampter*.

The Camaroon birds seem to be somewhat intermediate in tint between *C. periculosa* and *C. barthelotti* of Shelley; they are not so chestnut below nor so pale orange-buff as the latter, but they seem to be a little more orange and not so ferruginous on the throat and breast.

[No bird is more interesting to me than the *angókón*. It is very secretive, and I have never seen it alive, at large. It lives only about villages, on the ground in the thick under-bush; in such places all my specimens have been trapped by boys. It feeds on insects found on the ground.

But though I have not seen the *angókón*, I know its voice, which is wonderfully sweet. Its notes are strange and varied, with a weird quality that affects the imagination as unearthly. One brought to me alive made plaintive cries in the same strange sweet tone. According to the natives, this bird also imitates the notes of other birds.]

55. *NEOCOSSYPHUS POENSIS*.

Neocossyphus poensis (Strickl.) ; Sharpe, Ibis, 1902, p. 95
id. Hand-l. B. iv. p. 166 (1903).

- a. ♂ ad. Efulen, July 11, 1901.
- b. ♂ ad. 25 miles from Batanga, Dec. 5, 1901. "Ekwalat."
- c. ♀ ad. Efulen, Jan. 3, 1902.
- d. ♂ ad. „ June 3, 1902.
- e. No. 230. „ Nov. 8, 1902.
- f. ♀ ad. „ Dec. 31, 1902.
- g. No. 105. Ad. Efulen, March 27, 1903.
- h, i. Nos. 115, 123. ♂ ♀. Efulen, April 2-10, 1903.
- j. No. 305. ♂ ad. River Ja, Dec. 26, 1903.
- k. No. 230. ♂ ad. Efulen, Nov. 8, 1903.
- l. No. 305. ♂ ad. River Ja, Dec. 26, 1903.
- m. No. 556. ♀ ad. „ May 23, 1904.
- n. No. 577. ♂ ad. „ May 25, 1904.

The sexes seem to be perfectly alike, and the young birds, if there are any in the series, shew no spots on the plumage. This species appears to moult at different periods, as specimens are moulting in July and December.

This series, collected in all months of the year, shews remarkably little variation in colour, nor can I detect any sign of a spotted plumage in any of the specimens. In some the flanks are of a deep chestnut-maroon, contrasting with the cinnamon abdomen, but in others there is scarcely any perceptible difference of tint. Nor do the sexes seem to vary.

[The *ékwalat* is a ground-bird of the forest. It does not join with other forest-birds to feed in the *éjak*.]

56. *STIPHRORNIS GABONENSIS*.

Stiphrornis gabonensis Sharpe, Cat. B. vii. p. 173, pl. vi.
fig. 1 (1883).

- a, b. ♂ ad. Efulen, July 11, 27, 1901.
- c. ♀ ad. „ Dec. 28, 1901.
- d. ♂ ad. „ Jan. 2, 1902.
- e. ♀ ad. „ Jan. 1, 1903. "Akalat."

No. 94. ♂ imm.; Nos. 95, 97. ♀ ad. Efulen, March 21, 23,
1903.

Nos. 97, 100, 103. ♂ ad., ♀ imm. Efulen, March 24, 27, 1903.

Nos. 214, 216. ♂ ad., ♀ juv. Efulen, Nov. 1, 1903.

No. 703. ♂ ad. River Ja, June 17, 1904.

Specimens killed at different times of the year seem to vary very little as regards colour, the sexes being practically alike, with a little more or less olive on the upper parts. Young birds in March have orange spots on the wing-coverts, whitish throats, and a pale orange lower throat and fore-neck. It is rather curious that this species should also occur on the River Ja.

57. *STIPHORNIS XANTHOGASTER*. (Plate IX.)

Stiphornis xanthogaster Sharpe, Bull. B. O. C. xiv. p. 19 (1903).

No. 50. Juv.; No. 62. ♂ ad. River Ja, Feb. 1902.

Nos. 518, 526. ♂ ♀ ad. River Ja, May 17, 18, 1904.

This species is easily distinguished from *S. gabonensis* by its sulphur-yellow breast and abdomen, the tint being a little paler in the young bird.

[To be continued.]

XXX.—Anniversary Meeting of the British Ornithologists' Union, 1905.

THE Annual Meeting of the British Ornithologists' Union for this year was held on May 24th. In the absence of the President, who was abroad, the Chair was taken by Dr. P. L. Selater, F.R.S.

The Minutes of the last Annual Meeting were read and confirmed.

The Report of the Committee announced the continued prosperity of the Union during the past year, both as to Membership and as regards its finances.

The volume of 'The Ibis' for 1904 was the fourth of the eighth series, under the joint Editorship of Mr. P. L. Selater, D.Sc., F.R.S., and Mr. A. H. Evans, M.A. It contained 701 pages, and was illustrated with 11 coloured plates and 1 uncoloured plate.



J. G. Keulemann del. et lith.

Mintern Bros. imp.

STIPHRORNIS XANTHOGASTER.